

News

United States
Department
of Labor



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PLS – 3917
FOR RELEASE:
FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2003

HIGHLIGHTS OF WASHINGTON-BALTIMORE, DC-MD-VA-WV NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY APRIL 2002

Workers in the Washington-Baltimore metropolitan area averaged \$20.12 per hour during April 2002, according to a new survey released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Regional Commissioner Sheila Watkins reported that white-collar workers averaged \$24.05 per hour and accounted for 61 percent of the workers in the area. Blue-collar employees averaged \$16.35 per hour and represented 18 percent of the workforce, while the remaining 21 percent worked in service occupations and earned \$11.96 per hour. (See table 1.)

The National Compensation Survey (NCS) presents straight-time earnings for occupations in establishments employing 50 or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. The survey excludes agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal Government. This NCS covered 380 firms representing 1,392,500 workers in the Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV metropolitan area, which includes the District of Columbia; Baltimore City and the counties of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Carroll, Charles, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, Queen Anne's and Washington in Maryland; the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Fredericksburg, Manassas, and Manassas Park, and the counties of Arlington, Clarke, Culpeper, Fairfax, Fauquier, King George, Loudoun, Prince William, Spotsylvania, Stafford, and Warren in Virginia; and the counties of Berkeley and Jefferson in West Virginia. Seventy-six percent of those represented worked in private industry.

In the Washington-Baltimore metropolitan area, average hourly wages were published for 110 detailed occupations. (See table 1.) Among white-collar workers, computer systems analysts and scientists averaged \$34.10 per hour; registered nurses, \$28.25; and secretaries, \$17.47. Blue-collar occupations included production supervisors earning \$25.46 per hour, truck drivers at \$14.13, and stock handlers and baggers at \$9.47. In the service occupations, correctional institution officers averaged \$17.03 per hour; nursing aides, orderlies and attendants, \$10.63; and janitors and cleaners, \$10.12.

The NCS also provides broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics. (See tables 2 and 3.) For example, full-time employees in the Washington-Baltimore metropolitan area averaged \$21.15 per hour and part-timers earned \$11.79. Union workers in blue-collar jobs averaged \$18.81 per hour, while their nonunion counterparts made \$14.78. Private industry workers at establishments employing 50-99 workers averaged \$16.63 per hour and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$23.35.

The NCS is part of a statistical program that will eventually integrate three separate surveys of wages and benefits into one comprehensive compensation program increasing the amount of data available. Data provided by the NCS may be used by businesses for establishing pay plans, making decisions concerning plant relocation, and in collective bargaining negotiations. Individuals may use such data to help choose potential careers. Average rates of pay are also available for levels of work within an occupation based on knowledge, skill, independent judgment, supervision received and other factors required on the job.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV National Compensation Survey April 2002 (Bulletin 3115-33). While supplies last, single copies of the bulletin are available from the Philadelphia Information Office by calling (215) 597-3282. In addition, data contained in the bulletin are available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/home.htm>. Select survey tables can also be obtained from the Bureau's fax-on-demand service in Philadelphia by dialing (215) 597-4153 and requesting documents 9840, 9841, 9842, 9843, and 9844.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Philadelphia Information Office at (215) 597-3282 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. ET.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV, April 2002

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
All	\$20.12	2.3	\$19.27	3.0	\$23.02	2.2
All excluding sales	20.46	2.3	19.63	3.1	23.03	2.2
White collar	24.05	2.4	23.55	3.1	25.57	2.5
White collar excluding sales	25.28	2.2	25.15	3.0	25.60	2.5
Professional specialty and technical	30.59	2.3	31.19	3.3	29.52	2.5
Professional specialty	31.73	2.3	32.45	3.2	30.54	2.5
Engineers, architects, and surveyors	31.69	7.5	31.75	8.4	31.22	7.4
Electrical and electronic engineers	37.98	4.2	37.98	4.2	—	—
Engineers, n.e.c.	34.60	11.4	34.20	12.8	—	—
Mathematical and computer scientists	33.21	4.2	33.23	4.2	—	—
Computer systems analysts and scientists	34.10	4.4	34.12	4.4	—	—
Operations and systems researchers and analysts	24.19	8.1	24.19	8.1	—	—
Natural scientists	25.34	15.2	27.04	20.0	—	—
Health related	30.27	5.5	30.78	5.6	27.50	13.1
Physicians	50.41	12.9	49.77	14.0	—	—
Registered nurses	28.25	7.5	28.47	7.7	24.81	8.3
Respiratory therapists	20.42	4.3	20.42	4.3	—	—
Therapists, n.e.c.	20.53	8.7	—	—	—	—
Teachers, college and university	39.12	6.1	44.08	10.0	34.46	5.7
Other post-secondary teachers	32.90	5.0	—	—	34.00	6.5
Teachers, except college and university	31.93	1.8	24.80	10.7	32.89	1.6
Prekindergarten and kindergarten	25.21	19.4	—	—	—	—
Elementary school teachers	32.39	1.6	30.24	6.3	32.53	1.7
Secondary school teachers	33.66	1.7	32.35	5.7	33.85	1.7
Teachers, special education	32.70	4.5	—	—	34.15	2.7
Teachers, n.e.c.	28.59	12.5	13.74	26.8	33.64	6.6
Vocational and educational counselors	28.24	14.0	—	—	32.38	9.6
Librarians, archivists, and curators	21.85	5.5	21.78	7.7	21.94	7.6
Librarians	21.85	5.6	—	—	21.94	7.6
Social scientists and urban planners	30.93	8.0	35.13	8.2	—	—
Psychologists	30.26	14.3	—	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers	18.88	5.8	—	—	19.54	6.6
Social workers	19.16	6.5	—	—	19.72	7.4
Lawyers and judges	54.35	8.9	57.44	9.4	—	—
Lawyers	55.52	8.9	57.44	9.4	—	—
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c.	29.22	6.1	29.50	6.5	—	—
Designers	20.50	5.5	—	—	—	—
Editors and reporters	27.12	6.2	27.12	6.2	—	—
Technical	24.00	10.3	25.38	12.1	18.86	4.4
Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians	17.08	7.8	17.11	7.9	—	—
Radiological technicians	18.69	1.4	18.69	1.4	—	—
Licensed practical nurses	18.38	5.0	19.58	4.6	15.51	4.2
Health technologists and technicians, n.e.c.	17.13	6.3	14.78	7.1	—	—
Electrical and electronic technicians	22.54	7.7	22.54	7.7	—	—
Airplane pilots and navigators	91.86	28.2	91.86	28.2	—	—
Computer programmers	26.89	4.1	26.89	4.1	—	—
Technical and related, n.e.c.	18.59	4.4	—	—	—	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	30.18	4.1	31.13	4.6	27.33	7.3
Executives, administrators, and managers	33.74	5.0	34.47	5.9	31.21	7.9
Administrators and officials, public administration	26.43	9.7	—	—	26.43	9.7
Financial managers	43.88	13.4	43.88	13.4	—	—
Personnel and labor relations managers	29.18	15.5	—	—	—	—
Managers, marketing, advertising, and public relations	40.35	12.1	40.35	12.1	—	—
Administrators, education and related fields	36.85	6.2	32.42	8.9	39.72	7.1
Managers, medicine and health	30.01	6.8	31.21	6.0	—	—
Managers, service organizations, n.e.c.	30.11	15.8	31.07	16.9	—	—
Managers and administrators, n.e.c.	37.07	5.4	37.17	5.6	—	—
Management related	23.76	4.8	24.50	4.5	22.00	11.3
Accountants and auditors	21.41	7.3	22.69	3.7	19.74	13.7
Other financial officers	32.39	12.7	33.12	12.9	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV, April 2002 — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
White collar —Continued						
Executive, administrative, and managerial —Continued						
Management related —Continued						
Management analysts	\$31.36	5.3	\$31.36	5.3	—	—
Personnel, training, and labor relations specialists	18.79	9.0	18.79	9.0	—	—
Purchasing agents and buyers, n.e.c.	29.32	14.3	—	—	—	—
Inspectors and compliance officers, except construction	17.98	6.9	—	—	\$17.98	6.9
Management related, n.e.c.	24.74	9.2	23.30	8.4	27.65	19.5
Sales	16.25	10.2	16.18	10.3	—	—
Supervisors, sales	19.09	14.6	19.09	14.6	—	—
Advertising and related sales	20.12	24.0	20.12	24.0	—	—
Sales, other business services	28.17	13.9	28.17	13.9	—	—
Sales workers, hardware and building supplies ...	11.71	6.7	11.71	6.7	—	—
Sales workers, other commodities	11.36	9.2	11.36	9.2	—	—
Cashiers	9.07	12.6	9.06	12.7	—	—
Administrative support, including clerical	14.75	2.7	14.80	3.3	14.54	4.1
Supervisors, general office	19.24	5.4	19.09	6.8	19.73	6.4
Secretaries	17.47	4.8	18.37	5.2	14.79	5.2
Typists	15.92	7.6	15.92	7.6	—	—
Hotel clerks	8.98	3.6	8.98	3.6	—	—
Transportation ticket and reservation agents	18.84	6.7	18.84	6.7	—	—
Receptionists	10.66	5.1	10.69	5.2	—	—
Order clerks	17.40	16.1	17.40	16.1	—	—
Personnel clerks, except payroll and timekeeping	15.02	12.1	—	—	—	—
Library clerks	10.04	4.9	—	—	10.31	4.8
Records clerks, n.e.c.	14.97	5.0	15.63	5.9	—	—
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks	13.18	4.8	13.09	5.7	13.53	7.7
Billing clerks	13.97	6.4	13.97	6.4	—	—
Telephone operators	10.38	7.3	—	—	—	—
Dispatchers	17.63	10.9	—	—	—	—
Stock and inventory clerks	19.47	17.8	19.71	24.1	—	—
Material recording, scheduling, and distribution clerks, n.e.c.	12.93	13.0	12.93	13.0	—	—
Insurance adjusters, examiners, and investigators	15.17	8.6	15.17	8.6	—	—
Investigators and adjusters, except insurance	14.21	3.7	14.21	3.7	—	—
General office clerks	14.20	4.1	13.79	5.0	15.39	6.5
Bank tellers	11.05	6.9	11.05	6.9	—	—
Data entry keyers	11.25	10.2	—	—	—	—
Teachers' aides	12.74	6.1	11.05	13.3	13.37	5.3
Administrative support, n.e.c.	12.89	8.9	12.78	10.4	13.54	5.8
Blue collar	16.35	3.6	16.18	4.0	17.83	3.8
Precision production, craft, and repair	20.22	3.9	20.27	4.2	19.72	5.2
Industrial machinery repairers	17.81	9.3	18.07	10.4	—	—
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c.	20.50	5.3	20.44	6.1	—	—
Carpenters	17.40	7.3	—	—	—	—
Supervisors, production	25.46	6.5	—	—	—	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	14.45	5.8	14.45	5.8	—	—
Printing press operators	18.79	15.7	19.16	16.4	—	—
Laundering and dry cleaning machine operators	9.51	7.1	9.51	7.1	—	—
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c.	14.39	14.4	14.39	14.4	—	—
Assemblers	16.22	9.9	16.22	9.9	—	—
Transportation and material moving	15.32	8.1	14.72	10.7	17.61	4.8
Truck drivers	14.13	8.9	13.92	9.9	16.34	3.8
Driver-sales workers	9.90	24.4	9.90	24.4	—	—
Bus drivers	15.95	6.5	—	—	17.41	3.8

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV, April 2002 — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Blue collar —Continued						
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	\$12.25	4.7	\$12.22	4.9	\$12.85	13.5
Groundskeepers and gardeners, except farm	11.48	7.4	—	—	—	—
Stock handlers and baggers	9.47	8.2	9.47	8.2	—	—
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c.	13.67	9.4	13.67	9.4	—	—
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c.	11.79	15.1	11.83	15.6	—	—
Service	11.96	3.6	9.70	3.2	17.98	4.3
Protective service	19.09	4.9	11.17	5.7	21.38	4.8
Firefighting	19.58	4.4	—	—	19.58	4.4
Police and detectives, public service	21.76	6.3	—	—	22.00	6.4
Sheriffs, bailiffs, and other law enforcement officers	18.61	16.9	—	—	18.61	16.9
Correctional institution officers	17.03	2.0	—	—	17.03	2.0
Guards and police, except public service	11.07	5.5	10.67	5.3	—	—
Food service	8.48	6.6	8.42	6.8	10.79	3.7
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders	5.60	13.2	5.60	13.2	—	—
Waiters and waitresses	4.53	14.8	4.53	14.8	—	—
Waiters'/Waitresses' assistants	8.61	8.9	8.61	8.9	—	—
Other food service	10.26	5.2	10.24	5.5	10.79	3.7
Supervisors, food preparation and service	17.03	8.8	17.03	8.8	—	—
Cooks	10.17	3.6	10.17	3.7	—	—
Food counter, fountain, and related	9.16	15.0	9.16	15.0	—	—
Kitchen workers, food preparation	8.84	11.1	8.39	11.5	—	—
Food preparation, n.e.c.	9.22	4.4	9.18	4.7	—	—
Health service	10.78	2.4	10.52	2.8	12.53	2.7
Health aides, except nursing	11.81	5.7	—	—	—	—
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants	10.63	2.7	10.46	3.0	12.23	3.1
Cleaning and building service	10.30	4.3	9.78	4.8	12.52	3.7
Supervisors, cleaning and building service workers	14.17	10.9	—	—	—	—
Maids and housemen	10.00	5.7	10.00	5.7	—	—
Janitors and cleaners	10.12	6.2	9.07	7.1	12.34	3.8
Personal service	11.72	7.6	11.75	9.6	11.64	10.3
Attendants, amusement, and recreation facilities	6.84	3.2	—	—	—	—
Public transportation attendants	21.43	16.4	—	—	—	—
Early childhood teachers' assistants	11.04	18.2	—	—	13.26	11.9
Child care workers, n.e.c.	9.87	9.2	—	—	—	—
Service, n.e.c.	9.62	5.5	9.69	5.7	—	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

³ A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Table 2. **Selected worker characteristics: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² National Compensation Survey, Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV, April 2002**

Occupational group	Private industry and State and local government					
	Full-time workers ³	Part-time workers ³	Union ⁴	Nonunion ⁴	Time ⁵	Incentive ⁵
	Mean					
All occupations	\$21.15	\$11.79	\$21.67	\$19.73	\$20.04	\$21.97
All excluding sales	21.31	12.60	21.84	20.09	20.49	19.41
White collar	25.02	15.25	27.92	23.47	23.99	26.04
White-collar excluding sales	25.78	19.02	28.81	24.70	25.27	27.48
Professional specialty and technical	30.83	27.57	33.85	29.84	30.59	—
Professional specialty	31.89	29.55	33.08	31.41	31.73	—
Technical	24.53	18.66	38.72	20.88	24.00	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	30.60	15.20	31.33	30.14	30.17	—
Sales	18.98	8.29	—	16.31	14.09	25.80
Administrative support, including clerical	15.19	10.84	17.77	14.29	14.64	25.54
Blue collar	16.87	8.12	18.81	14.78	16.06	19.03
Precision production, craft, and repair	20.25	—	21.62	19.15	19.98	21.85
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	14.45	—	17.49	12.55	14.40	14.74
Transportation and material moving	16.69	7.76	17.56	13.47	15.00	18.71
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	12.60	8.58	14.37	11.58	12.21	13.49
Service	13.01	7.64	15.70	10.83	11.96	—
	Relative error ⁶ (percent)					
All occupations	2.2	12.1	3.8	2.7	2.3	11.8
All excluding sales	2.2	13.6	3.7	2.7	2.3	8.8
White collar	2.3	14.5	5.4	2.6	2.4	18.7
White-collar excluding sales	2.2	15.1	4.9	2.5	2.2	17.3
Professional specialty and technical	2.4	12.2	5.2	2.6	2.3	—
Professional specialty	2.3	12.2	1.5	2.8	2.3	—
Technical	10.9	12.6	33.0	6.8	10.3	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	4.0	21.1	15.5	4.0	4.1	—
Sales	10.9	6.1	—	10.8	9.4	22.7
Administrative support, including clerical	2.8	4.2	7.2	2.5	2.7	29.2
Blue collar	3.4	10.8	4.7	4.4	3.7	10.3
Precision production, craft, and repair	3.9	—	4.1	5.5	3.9	12.9
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	5.8	—	8.6	5.9	6.5	6.9
Transportation and material moving	6.9	15.1	10.6	8.9	9.0	3.0
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	4.9	7.0	9.0	5.5	4.8	7.6
Service	3.6	6.5	6.1	4.2	3.6	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

³ Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment. Therefore, a worker with a 35-hour-per-week schedule might be considered a full-time employee in one establishment, but classified as part-time in another firm, where a 40-hour week is the minimum full-time schedule.

⁴ Union workers are those whose wages are determined through collective bargaining.

⁵ Time workers' wages are based solely on an hourly rate or salary; incentive workers are those whose wages are at least partially based on productivity payments such as piece rates, commissions, and production bonuses.

⁶ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.

Table 3. **Establishment employment size: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² private industry, National Compensation Survey, Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV, April 2002**

Occupational group	Full-time and part-time workers				
	All private industry workers	50 - 99 workers ³	100 workers or more		
			Total	100 - 499 workers	500 workers or more
	Mean				
All occupations	\$19.27	\$16.63	\$19.81	\$17.12	\$23.35
All excluding sales	19.63	16.08	20.37	17.78	23.34
White collar	23.55	22.40	23.75	20.70	26.89
White-collar excluding sales	25.15	22.54	25.57	23.62	27.08
Professional specialty and technical	31.19	26.82	31.62	30.92	31.97
Professional specialty	32.45	29.95	32.69	32.42	32.84
Technical	25.38	14.94	26.62	21.10	28.45
Executive, administrative, and managerial	31.13	29.86	31.44	29.79	33.25
Sales	16.18	21.81	15.11	13.59	23.51
Administrative support, including clerical	14.80	15.19	14.72	14.54	14.92
Blue collar	16.18	15.25	16.37	15.06	19.51
Precision production, craft, and repair	20.27	19.26	20.51	19.92	21.75
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	14.45	12.82	14.76	12.57	21.03
Transportation and material moving	14.72	13.25	15.07	12.84	18.61
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	12.22	10.42	12.45	12.01	14.25
Service	9.70	7.71	10.38	9.63	11.52
	Relative error ⁴ (percent)				
All occupations	3.0	8.4	3.2	4.6	4.2
All excluding sales	3.1	8.8	3.3	5.0	4.1
White collar	3.1	7.4	3.4	5.5	4.2
White-collar excluding sales	3.0	7.8	3.2	5.5	3.8
Professional specialty and technical	3.3	9.4	3.4	6.6	4.0
Professional specialty	3.2	10.0	3.4	7.2	3.6
Technical	12.1	14.9	12.5	15.7	15.2
Executive, administrative, and managerial	4.6	10.6	5.2	8.8	5.1
Sales	10.3	17.0	11.7	8.4	41.6
Administrative support, including clerical	3.3	11.4	3.1	4.7	3.8
Blue collar	4.0	8.5	4.5	5.6	6.2
Precision production, craft, and repair	4.2	8.9	4.8	6.8	5.1
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	5.8	10.1	6.5	5.9	4.6
Transportation and material moving	10.7	22.5	11.9	8.6	17.6
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	4.9	3.2	5.4	5.9	11.9
Service	3.2	8.4	3.2	4.5	5.0

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

³ Establishments classified with 50-99 workers may contain

establishments with fewer than 50 due to staff reductions between survey sampling and collection.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.